

Leadership Now 2024 Annual Meeting: An Action Plan for a Critical Time

Annual Meeting Co-Chairs: Anoop Prakash and Lisa Blau

Hosted by Austin Hearst

Hearst Tower, New York, New York

Monday, May 13, 2024

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception Featuring New York Congressional Candidates

Location: Harvard Club of New York

Hosted by: Alan Jones, Senior Managing Director, Intermediate Capital Group; Leadership Now Member (NY)

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Registration, Coffee, and Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Welcome and CEO's State of the Project

Daniella Ballou-Aares, CEO, Leadership Now Project

Lisa Blau, General Partner and Co-Founder, _able; Leadership Now Investor Group Co-Chair; Annual Meeting Co-Chair

Master of Ceremonies: Susan Ochs, CEO, Ochs Advisors LLC; Former Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Treasury; Leadership Now Member (NY)

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

When Democracy Fails

This session will be a dialogue on critical moments of democratic breakdown in other countries – and the alarm signals that stand out across these cases. The speakers will also discuss effective ways that citizens and civic groups have fought corruption and anti-democratic forces.

Prof. Rachel Beatty Reidl, Professor, Director of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, the John S. Knight Professor of International Studies, Cornell University

Evan Mawarire, Director of Frontlines of Freedom, Renew Democracy Initiative and Founder, #ThisFlag Citizens Movement, Zimbabwe

Michael Waldman, President and CEO of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law; Leadership Now Member (NY)

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

The Business and National Security Case Against Authoritarianism

What's at stake in the 2024 election? How do we make the case – in business and national security terms – that what's at stake is more than any one policy or position?

Louis Caldera, Former Secretary of the Army, and Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Military Office; Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School; Leadership Now Member (DC)

Eddie Fishman, Managing Director and Member of the Executive Committee, D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P. and D.E. Shaw & Co., L.L.C.; Leadership Now Investor Group Co-Chair

Moderator: John Avlon, Former Senior Political Analyst and Anchor at CNN; Candidate for New York First Congressional District

How to Make the Case Against Authoritarianism in Your Networks: A Primer

Susan Ochs and **Daniella Ballou-Aares**

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Break & Transition

11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Member Facilitated Table Conversations

Assignments in Your Registration Packet

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Break & Transition

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch and Leadership Now Award Presentation to Adam Kinzinger

Paul Tagliabue, Former Counsel, Covington & Burling; Former Commissioner of the National Football League; Leadership Now Member (DC)

Adam Kinzinger, Founder, Country First; Former Congressman, Illinois 11th Congressional District

1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Pragmatic Leadership in Divisive Times: A View From the Swing States

Even as voices on the far right and far left dominate public discourse, there continue to be leaders in both political parties who are governing as pragmatic, moderate problem-solvers. In this panel, we will hear about the challenges of running for office and governing as a pragmatist, particularly in swing states, and how these leaders build and grow constituencies for their approach to governance.

Didi Kuo, Center Fellow, Freeman-Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University; Leadership Now Member (Bay Area)

Paige Cagnetti, Mayor of Scranton, Pennsylvania

Anna Tovar, Commissioner, Arizona Corporation Commission

Moderator: Liam Kerr, Co-Founder, WelcomePAC

2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Driving Change in Leadership Now Priority States

Leadership Now members are driving efforts to defend and strengthen democracy in crucial states around the country. In this panel, we will discuss how business leaders are organizing themselves to make change and the roadmap for what is next.

Sam Wang, Professor of Neuroscience, Princeton University; Founder, Electoral Innovation Lab
Anoop Prakash, EVP Americas, AriensCo; Leadership Now Wisconsin Chair; Annual Meeting Co-Chair

Kate Pringle, Partner, Friedman Kaplan Seiler and Adelman LLP; Leadership Now Member (NY)

Jeff Berding, Co-CEO, FC Cincinnati; Leadership Now Member (Ohio)

Moderator: Marc Solomon, Senior Political Advisor, Leadership Now

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Break

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Investing in Women's Political Power: Why It Is Critical in 2024 and Beyond

Melinda French Gates in Conversation with **Modupe Akinola**, Columbia University Professor; Leadership Now Member (NY)

3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Break and Transition

- 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. **Member Facilitated Table Conversations**
Assignments in Your Registration Packet
- 4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Closing Session**
Anoop Prakash, EVP Americas, AriensCo; Leadership Now Wisconsin Chair; Annual Meeting Co-Chair
Daniella Ballou-Aares, CEO, Leadership Now Project
- 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Cocktail Reception (in Hearst Lobby)**
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **Dinner and Fireside Chat with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Lisa Blau (on Floor 44)**